

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION EUR-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 EURE-00 /004 W

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P 221618Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9020

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 14953

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FOR GARRISON FROM MATLOCK

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

1. AS BACKGROUND FOR VISIT TO YUGOSLAVIA STARTING TOMORROW, HARRIMAN PARTY HAS ASKED FOR TEXT OR EXTENSIVE SUMMARY OF NEW YORK TIMES SEPTEMBER 19 ARTICLE ON SILBERMAN ON WHICH DEPARTMENT DEPUTY SPOKESMAN COMMENTED IN SEPTEMBER 21 PRESS BRIEFING. CAN YOU SUPPLY ANYTHING ON ARTICLE TODAY?

2. SUBSEQUENT TO DISPATCH OF MOSCOW 14861, NATAN AND SOF'YA ETLIN INFORMED US THEY HAD RECEIVED EXIT VISAS. WE DECIDED TO PROCESS THEM AS NON-PREFERENCE. ACCORDINGLY, WE SUBMITTED CASE TO WASHINGTON FOR ADVISORY OPINION WITHOUT WAITING TO HEAR FROM YOU ABOUT WHETHER THEIR SONS ELIGIBLE TO FILE PETITION.

3. RE PARA 6, STATE 229913, (USE OF SPASO BY VISITORS), STAFF SHOULD BE BACK AROUND MIDDLE OF OCTOBER AND WE OF COURSE WILL BE HAPPY TO PUT UP TRAIN, KEOGH AND COMPARABLE VISITORS IF DECISION IS OURS. (UNTIL THIRD-COUNTRY STAFF RETURNS, THERE IS NO COOK AVAILABLE.) HOWEVER, WE MAY HAVE A NEW AMBASSADOR BY THEN, AND IF SO DECISION WILL OF COURSE BE HIS. FOR THIS REASON, WE ARE LEERY OF MAKING FIRM COMMITMENTS AT THIS POINT. WHEN TIMING OF AMBASSADOR'S ARRIVAL IS MORE CLEAR, WE CAN EITHER BE MORE DEFINITE OR DEFER DECISION TO HIM. (ON TIMING, THERE HAS

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BEEN NO MOTION HERE, THOUGH I TRIED TO GIVE MATTERS A PUSH

DURING AIRPORT FAREWELLS MONDAY. AS DAYS GO BY, THE
IMPRESSION GROWS THAT WE MAY BE EXPERIENCING A DELIBERATE STALL).

4. WOULD LIKE TO SUBMIT FURTHER COMMENTS ON DAO PROJECT
BEFORE FINAL DECISIONS ARE MADE, BUT HAVE BEEN TOO RUSHED
UP TO NOW. TRACY IS ANALYZING SIZES AND WEIGHTS AND WILL
DISCUSS WITH JIM WOLD AND THEN WILL MAKE SOME CONCRETE
SUGGESTIONS. LARGEST UNIT WE PRESUME IS AIR
CONDITIONER; IF SO, THIS COULD COME UNCLASSIFIED AND THEN BE
CHECKED--OR SO IT SEEMS TO US. EVERYTHING ELSE, WE BELIEVE,
IS CONSISTENT WITH SIZE OF ITEMS REGULARLY BROUGHT ON POUCH
RUNS.
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